

MEDIA STATEMENT

15 AUGUST 2023

MEC HLOMUKA WELCOMES THE ARREST OF THE PRIME SUSPECT IN THE UMLAZI MASS SHOOTING

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community safety and Liaison, Siphso Hlomuka welcomes and applauds the arrest of the key suspects following the fatal shooting that claimed seven lives on Friday (11 August 2023) last week at Q section in Umlazi.

Law enforcement through the office of the Provincial Police Commissioner activated a 72-hour mobilization manhunt following the gruesome attack.

A multidisciplinary team comprising police officers from various specialized units operationalized intelligence and followed leads in uMbumbulu, Umlazi, Emphandiwi and Pitela areas in pursuit of the suspects.

The suspect was eventually cornered and arrested on Sunday, (13 August) at a mall in Durban. He is due to appear at the Umlazi Magistrates court today, (Tuesday, 15 August). He is facing seven charges of murder and one of attempted murder.

Commenting earlier, MEC Hlomuka said, "We applaud the swift and diligent work done by an integrated intelligence operation that led to the arrest of this wanted criminal. This is proof that we are turning the tide against crime. Our integrated approach to crime detection and combating is yielding positive results. We have the utmost confidence that police will round up other suspects wanted for the fatal attack,".

The MEC also reiterates a call for members of the community to assist law enforcement with information that may assist crack criminal cases.

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Issued by the Department of Community Safety and Liaison.

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